

### REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given to this application.

Claims 2-8, 10-15, and 26-39 are now pending in the application.

Claims 7, 14, 15, and 26-39 are allowed.

Applicants have amended rejected dependent claims 2, 8, and 10-12 to change their dependency from cancelled claim 9 to allowed claim 7. All dependent claims should therefore also now be in condition for allowance.

Applicants have cancelled claim 9 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein for purposes of expediting prosecution. Applicants, however, do not necessarily acquiesce or agree with the rejection of this cancelled claim, and expressly reserve the right to refile any and all of the cancelled claims and contest any rejections or objections thereof in one or more subsequent applications.

The claim amendments have rendered moot all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections and issue a notice of full allowance for the application.

### CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe they do not owe any fee in connection with this filing. If, however, Applicants owe any fee(s), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee(s) to Deposit Account No. **08-0750**. In addition, if there is ever any other fee deficiency or overpayment under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17 in connection with this patent application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiency or overpayment to Deposit Account No. **08-0750**.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned directly at (314) 726-7502.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Anthony G. Fussner, No. 47,582

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Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.  
7700 Bonhomme, Suite 400  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105  
(314)-726-7500  
(314)-726-7501 (facsimile)